Evening Telegraph

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1870.

THE Age day after day contained frantic appeals to the Republican papers to either explain or denounce what it termed "the diabolical scheme of the radical aldermen to defraud the public and violate the laws which they were sworn to support." We yesterday endeavored to satisfy our contemporary by showing that, in the first place, there had been no violation of the law, and that, in the second place, the Democrats had been accorded all their equitable rights by being allowed to appoint their own election officers. That our statement of the pase was conclusive, if not satisfactory, is Shown by the fact that all the Age has to say in reply is that THE TELEGRAPH published in its own columns a full refutation of its facts and arguments, in the announcement that a motion was made yesterday in the Court of Common Pleas to set aside the appointment of Democratic canvassers by the Board of Aldermen, on the ground that they are not qualified, and that they were appointed in fraud of the Democrats. The Age makes the funny mistake of confounding a motion in court by a couple of Democratic lawyers with a decision of the Court, and although it may impose upon some of the rank and file of the Democracy, the intelligent men of its own party will only smile. We challenge the Age to controvert our statements of yesterday, and it will be time enough for it to argue from the case brought into court yesterday when the case is decided.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN FRANCE.

THE late news from France indicates that the elections of a Constituent Assembly have not been called one moment too soon. The power of the Provisional Government is questioned or defied in various quarters, and it is imperatively necessary that a central authority which will command universal respect, and which is chosen by the whole nation, should be speedily established. There is a manifest tendency to disintegration, which is aggravated by the presence of the invaders on French soil, and it cannot be thoroughly corrected until the whole country unites in establishing a government based on the will of a majority of the entire voting population instead of the wishes of the Parisians. We see evidences of this tendency in the reported outbreaks in Nice and Savoy in favor of a reannexation to Italy, in the revolt of the Arabs and threatened loss of the French possessions in Africa, in the rumor that Bazaine will not obey the orders of Favre and his associates, in the ominous re-port that Lyons and Paris are not in political accord, and in the demands which a central republican committee in the city of Paris are making upon the Provisional Government.

A cure for these discords, however, has already been provided, and if France has learned wisdom from her former republican experiments she will obey the present rulers until others can be empowered by the Constituent Assembly. The greatest obstacle to a permanent popular government is to be found in the ultra radicalism of the Red Republicans, and their longings for a new social organization which will not only reform political abuses, but equalize wealth and create a Utopia. Their scheme is as pleasing to their disordered imaginations as it is horrible in its practical application to real life, and in grasping at a shadow they are forever losing the substance of rational and wellsecured liberty. As France is the cradle of socialism, and as many of her writers and thinkers, as well as her workmen, have learned to treat dreams of a Golden Age as bright realities, it is impossible to say how much influence the Red Republicans may exert in moulding the future of the nation, but it is scarcely probable that they will possess a majority in the Constituent Assembly about to be elected.

The overthrow and disgrace of all the old dynasties give to the nation a splendid opportunity for establishing free institutions. Now since the Bonapartes are shelved with the Bourbons and Orleanists, the people have only to prove their capacity for selfgovernment by suppressing the excesses of the impracticable radicals on the one hand, and preventing the establishment of a new dictatorship on the other. Their success may hinge upon the manner in which they extricate themselves from the military perils by which they are surrounded; but we can scarcely believe that the movement to which they are indebted for the overthrow of the empire, and the consequent creation of their present political opportunity, will enure, in its termination, to their disadvantage. The Prussians unwittingly brought liberty to France as a compensation for the sufferings and horrors of invasion, and it seems too dreadful for belief that their departure should be signalized by a withdrawal of this boon. Whatever may be the future course of the war, or the character of the treaty by which it is closed, France, after suffering and doing so much to spread freedom in other countries, has a legitimate claim to the consolation which has sprung up, like a star of hope, from her present gloom, and we trust that it may never again be lost in a long night of despotism.

REVENUE REFORM.

THE American Free Trade League is unusually busy this season in circulating tracts opposed to protection, and its members are making strenuous efforts to elect a majority of free trade members of the next Congress. Outside of Pennsylvania the Democratic party everywhere openly espouses the doctrines of this organization, and while there are a few Republicans who assist it, the main body of that party in all sections of the country are the firm friends of American industry.

The fallacies of free trade have been so frequently exposed that these agitators seek to disguise their real object by adopting the tifle of revenue reformers, but their publications are all devoted to the interests of foreign manufacturers and to a restoration of the industrial supremacy of Great Britain in American markets.

The success of their schemes would be the greatest possible calamity that could be inflicted on the State of Pennsylvania and the city of Philadelphia. The agricultural products of this Commonwealth are not sufficient to sustain its own inhabitants, and the trade and commerce of its citizens extend little beyond the supply of their immediate wants. Our chief source of wealth is, therefore, to be found in our varied manufacturing and mining interests, and the agitators who strike at the prosperity of these great interests are more dangerous to us than the most implacable public enemies. All parties in the State profess to favor protection, but the voters in every district should be careful to elect able, firm, and unflinching advocates of the doctrines which are so vitally essential to their welfare, and they should send no man to Congress whose fidelity is in the slightest degree doubtful. It is especially important, since a few Republicans in other States are becoming unsound on the tariff, that Pennsylvania should present a united and vigorous front, and that her Democratic as well as her Republican representatives should be true as steel to her diversified industry.

OBITUARY.

Colonel Bradford R. Alden. The death of Colonel Bradford R. Alden is announced. He was the son of a Revolutionary soldier, and a taste for military life induced him to procure an appointment to West Point, from which he graduated in 1832. He was constantly engaged in active military duties until 1853, when he was wounded at the head of his command in an encounter with the Indians in Oregon. During the Mexican war he acted as the aide-decamp of General Scott, whose fast friend he was, and who appointed him his executor. He also for a time acted as instructor at the Military Academy. He was prevented by the state of his health from taking any active

part in the war for the suppression of the Rebellion,

but he made his loyalty and devotion to the na-

tional cause known in many ways, and aided it so

far as he was able by his influence,

Charles T. Parsloe, Sr. Charles T. Parsloe, Sr., one of the veterans of the American stage, died in New York on Thursday. He was born in England in June, 1804, and became a member of the dramatic profession at an early age, His first appearance in this country was made at the old Park Theatre, New York, in 1832. He was a member of the stock company at Burton's Chambers Street Theatre, New York, from 1848 to 1854. In the last named year he withdrew from the stage and established a dramatic agency, which he carried on with much success.

SPECIAL NOTICES. For Additional Special Notices see the Inside Pages. BOPOPENING DAY

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